Annual Imports in Telephone Sector

2317. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual imports in the Telephone Sector, in dollars, during the last three years; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The annual level of imports in the telecom sector including imports required for production of telecom equipment in dollars during the last 3 years is given below:

Item	*88-89*	*89-90*	*90-91*
Value of Imports in Million Dollars . .	509.8	529.0	310.6

(b) The details of the annual imports in telecom sector during the last 3 years is given below:

Item	*88-89*	*89-90*	*90-91*
		(in Million US $)	
(i) *Finished*			
Telecom equipment :			
— Underground Cables	18.1	13.0	10.3
— Switching equipment	25.4	16.2	8.9
— Transmission equipment . . .	59.5	72.9	5.1
— Test instruments & others, including VSNL & TCIL	11.8	12.3	6.6
(ii) Import of raw material/components/parts required for production of telecom equipment and cables . . .	395	414.6	279.7
Total	509.8	529	310.6

Per Capita Availability of Pulses

2318. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the per capita availability of pulses over the past decade;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government have taken to arrest further decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Per capita net daily availability of pulses has ranged from 30.9 grams in 1980 to 44.0 grams in 1986. Within this range there have been year-to-year fluctuations during the decade 1980-90.

(c) For increasing production of pulses: National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) and Special Food Production Programme (SFPP) are being implemented to provide inputs support to the farmers. These programmes have been taken up in the potential States. Financial assistance is given to States on various inputs like seed production, plant protection measures, distribution of seed minikits and farm implements, organisation of demonstration etc. to induce the farmers to take up cultiva-

tion of pulses with improved technology on large scale through these schemes. Pulses have also been brought under the Technology Mission in the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation.

Three Tier Blocking System in Punjab

2319. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three tier blocking system in the forward areas of Punjab has proved effective to curb the armed intrusions from across the border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) The measures adopted on the Punjab border to prevent *inter alia* armed intrusions from across the border have been yielding encouraging results. Apart from the increased number of apprehensions on the border, these measures have also helped to instil confidence among the local population.

[*Translation*]

Crop Insurance Scheme

2320. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in Madhya Pradesh during 1990-91; and

(b) the target fixed for 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Total number of farmers covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) are 2,12,877 in Madhya Pradesh during the year 1990-91.

(b) The CCIS is a voluntary scheme. Implementing States/UTs are free to implement it in any area. Accordingly, no State-wise targets are fixed under the scheme. However, at the national level a target of covering 52 lakh farmers has been fixed for 1991-92 under the CCIS.

Sanctioning of Mining Lease

2321. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide submission of mining plans as essential before the agreement and after the sanctioning the mining lease by the State Government in the existing rules; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 have been amended from 19-10-1989 to provide that in the case of an application for grant of mining lease, the mining plan duly approved may be submitted within a period of six months after the precise area which is proposed to be granted is communicated to the applicant by the State Government.

[*English*]

Return of Travancore House to Kerala

2322. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not returning the Travancore House in New Delhi to the Government of Kerala;

(b) the reasons for not shifting the offices of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission lo-